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EXAMINER

THAI, HANH B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is Final Office Action in response to the amendment filed August 3, 2006.

Claims 1-49 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Application argues that “the claims describe reorganizing a collection of files from a camera organization (e.g., file system) to another organization (e.g., file system) while leaving the file format unchanged” of claims 1-2 and 4-11 (response, page 10). Examiner respectively point out that it is not claimed.

3. Application argues that “Hossain does not describe an asset normalizing” of claim 12. Examiner disagrees. Hossain discloses converting the image files into the predetermined video standards media (abstract and summery, Hossain) corresponding to the “asset normalizing”. In light of the specification, paragraph [0012], “asset normalization” is the process of converting including convert file. Therefore, Hossain’s teaching of converting the image files reads on the claimed “asset normalizing”.

4. Applicant's arguments regarding “a camera asset organization structure is a file system organization” of claims 1-49 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 12-13, 15-25, 27-33, 36-39 and 41-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hossain et al. (US Pub. 2003/0059199 A1) in view of Probert Jr. et al. (US 6,549,918 B1).

Regarding claim 12, Hossain discloses an asset normalizing method for processing a collection of digital image, comprising the steps of:

- automatically matching an asset organization scheme of digital images in a digital camera to a selected asset normalizer of a predetermined set of asset normalizers (abstract; summary and ¶[0032]-[0033], Hossain); and
- processing the collection of digital assets of digital camera into a standard structure in accordance with the best available asset normalizer (¶[0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Hossain, however, does not disclose a camera asset organization structure is a file system organization. Probert discloses the file extraction program including file system (e.g., abstract, Figs 2-5 and corresponding text, Probert). Hossain and Probert are both in the same field to convert and extract a plurality of files in a communication network system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill person in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply the well known file system extraction of Probert into Hossain's system, because by doing so, as suggested by Probert the combined system would formatting any application file system from one format to another format for faster access and make the system upgrade easier to perform and also applws upgrades to take place in stage, which can be very important for organizations with larger numbers of systems. Furthermore, applications can also embed files in a new context,

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such as in copying to an offline media where specific formats are required (col.4, lines 26-49, Probert).

Regarding claim 22, Hossain discloses a digital camera system for processing a camera-specific organization scheme of digital image assets into a non-camera specific organization format, comprising:

- A comparison component for automatically matching the camera-specific organization scheme of the digital camera to a selected asset organization normalizer of a predetermined set of asset organization normalizers (abstract; summary and ¶[0032]-[0033], Hossain); and
- An asset-processing component, coupled to the comparison component, for organizing the digital image assets of the digital camera into a non-camera specific organization format in accordance with the selected asset normalizer to allow the digital image assets to be processed by a variety of devices (¶[0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Hossain, however, does not disclose a camera asset organization structure is a file system organization. Probert discloses the file extraction program including file system (e.g., abstract, Figs 2-5 and corresponding text, Probert). Hossain and Probert are both in the same field to convert and extract a plurality of files in a communication network system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill person in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply the well known file system extraction of Probert into Hossain's system, because by doing so, as suggested by Probert the combined system would formatting any application file system from one format to another format

for faster access and make the system upgrade easier to perform and also applws upgrades to take place in stage, which can be very important for organizations with larger numbers of systems. Furthermore, applications can also embed files in a new context, such as in copying to an offline media where specific formats are required (col.4, lines 26-49, Probert).

Regarding claim 36, Hossain disclose a computer-reable medium containing instructions for processing a collection of digital image assets from a digital camera that are organized in a first organization format based on an asset organization scheme into a second organization format by:

- automatically matching the asset organization scheme of the digital camera to a selected asset organization normalizer of a predetermined set of asset organization normalizers (abstract; summary and ¶[0032]-[0033], Hossain); and
- processing the collections of assets of the digital camera into the organization format in accordance with the selected asset organization normalizer (¶[0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Hossain, however, does not disclose a camera asset organization structure is a file system organization. Probert discloses the file extraction program including file system (e.g., abstract, Figs 2-5 and corresponding text, Probert). Hossain and Probert are both in the same field to convert and extract a plurality of files in a communication network system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill person in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply the well known file system extraction of Probert into Hossain's system, because by doing so, as suggested by Probert the combined

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system would formatting any application file system from one format to another format for faster access and make the system upgrade easier to perform and also allows upgrades to take place in stage, which can be very important for organizations with larger numbers of systems. Furthermore, applications can also embed files in a new context, such as in copying to an offline media where specific formats are required (col.4, lines 26-49, Probert).

Regarding claims 13, 23 and 37, Hossain discloses the automatically matching an asset organization scheme includes comparing the set of digital assets and metadata with a predetermined set of characterizations of assets and metadata to determine whether a match is present (¶ [0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 15, 27 and 41, Hossain discloses the automatically matching an asset organization scheme includes, where no match is found, applying a fallback asset normalizer (abstract; summary and ¶[0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 16, 28 and 42, Hossain discloses the processing the collection of digital image assets of the digital camera comprises asset normalization that normalizes the asset organization scheme of the digital camera into the selected standard organization structure (¶ [0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 17, 29 and 43, Hossain discloses the asset normalization includes at least one of: making explicit an identity and purpose of files, making explicit relationships between files, extracting data and metadata of files, where necessary converting formats of files, and attaching associated asset handlers to specific asset types (¶ [0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 18, 30 and 44, Hossain discloses the asset normalization provides a file output that contains references to files and metadata determined to be relevant to a set of inputs (¶ [0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 19, 31 and 45, Hossain discloses that the file output includes files discovered by interrogating a file system to discover additional relevant files based on an asset normalizer's knowledge and heuristics (¶ [0014] and [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 20, 32 and 46, Hossain discloses processing the standard organization structure into a user-friendly structure that is at least one of: an audio-video presentation, still images, still images plus audio clips, video clips, and audio clips (abstract; summary and ¶ [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 21, 33 and 47, Hossain discloses providing for at least one of: viewing and hearing assets selected by the selected asset normalizer in an exogenous device (abstract; summary and ¶ [0032]-[0033], Hossain).

Regarding claims 24 and 38, Hossain discloses the comparison component includes information that includes at least one of: a directory pattern, a file name pattern, and an image metadata pattern (¶ [0032]-[0033]; [0037] and [0043], Hossain).

Regarding claims 25 and 39, Hossain discloses a directory pattern is assembled by an ordered transversal to a depth of at least one directory beneath a predetermined location and concatenating directory names with or without separator characters or symbols (¶ [0032]-[0033]; [0037] and [0043], Hossain).

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6. Claims 14, 26 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hossain et al. (US Pub. 2003/0059199 A1) in view of Probert Jr. et al. (US 6,549,918 B1) and further in view of Kain, III et al. (US 6,119,118) submitted by applicant.

Regarding claims 14, 26 and 40, Hossain/Probert combination discloses all of the claim limitation as discussed above, except indicating to the user that no match was found. Kain discloses a method for extending file system metadata including the indicating if there is no match found (col.2, lines 5-13, Kain). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art time of the invention to modify the combination of Hossain and Probert to include the claimed feature as taught by Kain. The motivation of doing so would have been to efficiently detect the change in digital image asset (col.1, line 62 to col.2, 5, Kain).

7. Claims 34-35 and 48-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hossain et al. (US Pub. 2003/0059199 A1) in view of Probert Jr. et al. (US 6,549,918 B1) and further in view of Calia (US 5,450,504) of record.

Regarding claims 34 and 48, Hossain and Probert combination discloses all of the claimed limitations as discussed above, except a comparison a score that represents a quality of a match. Calia discloses a method for finding a most likely matching of a target facial image in database of facial images including an image comparison and score for each comparison (abstract and col.11, line 24 to col. 12, line 11, Calia). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art time of the invention to modify the combination of Hossain and Probert to include the claimed feature as taught by Calia. The motivation of doing so would have been to efficiently digital image assets and determine a match (col.2, line 46 to col.3, line5, Calia).

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Regarding claims 35 and 49, Hossain/ Probert/Calia combination disclose the digital camera system wherein a highest score is the score that represents the quality of a best match (col.11, line 24 to col. 12, line 11, Calia).

8. Claims 1-2, 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. (US 6,567,119 B1) in view of Bell et al. (US 6,147,742) and further in view of Probert Jr. et al. (US 6,549,918 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Parulski disclose a method for automatically processing digital image assets of a digital camera, comprising the steps of:

- Receiving a set of assets and metadata from a digital camera that have been organized by the digital camera into a camera organization structure (summary and col.5, line 63 to col.6, line 32, Parulski discloses picture elements “a set of assets” and “metadata” in a digital camera) and
- processing the assets and metadata into a standard structure (summary and col.5, lines 46-62, Parulski discloses the selecting the images “set of assets and metadata” to be processed and converted to the finished file format “a selected organization structure”).

Parulski does not explicitly disclose automatically identifying a selected restructuring scheme from a plurality of schemes. Bell, on the other hand, discloses photofinishing system and method for automated advanced services including automatically managing and generating an organized image set from a variety of input sources (abstract; summary and col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell). Therefore, Bell’s teaching, in light of the invention’s specification, reads on the claimed automatically

identifying a selected restructuring scheme from a plurality of schemes. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to utilize the camera organized structure of Bell into the Parulski's system to derive the invention as claimed. The motivation of doing so would have been to improve the image quality in digital camera system and satisfy the needs of managing the audio data that is integrated with the images on the storage media (col.2, lines 8-22, Bell).

Parulski and Bell does not disclose a camera asset organization structure is a file system organization. Probert discloses the file extraction program including file system (e.g., abstract, Figs 2-5 and corresponding text, Probert). It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill person in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply the well known file system extraction of Probert into Parulski and Bell's system, because by doing so, as suggested by Probert the combined system would formatting any application file system from one format to another format for faster access and make the system upgrade easier to perform and also allows upgrades to take place in stage, which can be very important for organizations with larger numbers of systems. Furthermore, applications can also embed files in a new context, such as in copying to an offline media where specific formats are required (col.4, lines 26-49, Probert).

Regarding claim 2, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein automatically identifying the selected restructuring scheme comprises comparing the set of assets and metadata with a predetermined set of characterizations of assets and metadata to determine whether a match is present (col.6, lines 27-32, Parulski).

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Regarding claim 4, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein automatically identifying the selected restructuring scheme includes, where no match is found, applying a fallback scheme (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 5, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination disclose the method of claim 1 wherein processing the assets and metadata into the selected organization structure comprises asset normalization ([0054]-[0059], Hossain).

Regarding claim 6, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein applying the asset normalization includes at least one of: making explicit an identity and purpose of files, making explicit relationships between files, extracting data and metadata of files, where necessary converting formats of files, and attaching associated asset handlers to specific asset types (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 7, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein applying the asset normalization provides a file output that contains references to files and metadata determined to be relevant to a set of inputs (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 8, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein the file output includes files discovered by interrogating a file system to discover additional relevant files based on an asset moralizer's knowledge and heuristics (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 9, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein processing includes processing the selected organization structure into a user-friendly structure

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that is one of: an audio-video presentation, still images, still images plus audio clips, video clips, and audio clips (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 10, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein processing includes processing the selected organization structure to provide for at least one of: viewing and hearing the user-friendly structure in an exogenous device (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

Regarding claim 11, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses the method wherein automatically identifying a selected restructuring scheme to use for processing a set of assets and metadata includes using a framework having a set of available asset normalizers to identify a best available asset normalizer (col.3, line 44 to col.4, line 67 and col.5, lines 41-50, Bell).

9. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. (US 6,567,119 B1) in view of Bell et al. (US 6,147,742) further in view of Probert Jr. et al. (US 6,549,918 B1) and further in view of Kain, III et al. (US 6,119,118) submitted by applicant.

Regarding claim 3, Parulski/Bell/Probert combination discloses all of the claim limitation as discussed above, except indicating to the user that no match was found. Kain discloses a method for extending file system metadata including the indicating if there is no match found (col.2, lines 5-13, Kain). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art time of the invention to modify the combination of Parulski and Bell to include the claimed feature as taught by Kain. The motivation of doing so would have been to efficiently detect the change in digital image asset (col.1, line 62 to col.2, 5, Kain).

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B. Thai whose telephone number is 571-272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

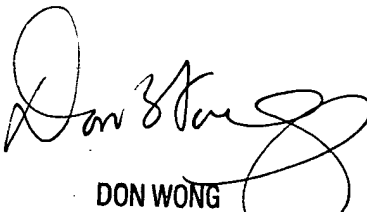
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hanh B Thai
Examiner
Art Unit 2163

October 13, 2006


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